



# STATE OF ARIZONA SCHOOL FACILITIES BOARD

Governor of Arizona  
Jane Dee Hull

Interim Executive Director  
Edward E. Boot

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## Description of the Minimum Adequate Fire Alarm System as Required by the School Facilities Board

The adopted School Facilities Board Guidelines requires that all schools in the state of Arizona be equipped with a Class "A" fire alarm system as approved by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The only exception to this SFB Guideline would be those schools that have fewer than 2 classrooms. Schools with less than 2 classrooms are required to be protected with Fire Marshal approved smoke detector devices in all of the individual rooms within the building that houses the classroom.

All schools with 2 or more classrooms are required to have an approved alarm system. The characteristics of the 'minimum adequate' system, as defined by the SFB, are greater than those required by the State Fire Marshal. Though it is fully within the individual district's latitude to have a system of greater capabilities than the 'minimum adequate' system, the additional expense of that system would be the responsibility of the district and not that of the State of Arizona or the School Facilities Board. All components of all fire alarm systems must be of a Fire Marshal approved type, must be installed per the 1997 UFC, and must meet NFPA-72.

The elements of the "generic" SFB minimum adequate system are as follows:

1. The System Design, when installed and tested, must conform to the minimum requirements of the 1997 Uniform Building Code, the 1997 Uniform Fire Code and Final On Site Review for Final Approval by the Fire Marshal for complete device visual and audible requirement locations.  
a. (State regulation requires that the Fire Alarm System Design can be approved contingent on a field inspection that verifies the conditions as shown in the construction documents and meet all the requirements of the current State of Arizona Fire Code)
2. The fire alarm control unit, remote enunciator panel and access keys to locked fire alarm equipment must be installed in an approved location as per NFPA-72.
3. Cabling/circuiting to be configured as required for class 'A' rating as approved by the State Fire Marshal.
4. UL and/or FM approved devices.
5. Manual pull stations at all exits or as required by code.
6. Travel distance to pull stations not to exceed 200'.
7. Horns and strobes as required by the 1997 UBC and 1997 UFC.
8. Smoke detectors as required by the 1997 UBC and 1997 UFC.
- ~~9. Smoke detectors in all storage rooms of 40 SF or greater wired back to the control panel.~~
10. Kitchens, Mechanical, Electrical, Janitor and Storage rooms to be equipped with heat detectors that are activated by a sudden rise in the room temperature. ~~This provision is No exemptions if the building is protected with fire sprinklers.~~
11. Smoke control devices as required by the 1997 Uniform Mechanical Code.

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### Notes:

1. A manufacturer proprietary system is not required. "Generic" Fire Marshal approved systems and devices are available and may be advantageous to the school district.
2. All designs, bids and installations must provide a complete and fully functioning class 'A' system, manual pull station system or better.
3. School Facilities board shall fund class 'A' manual pull station systems. School district may choose to build an addressable system, when bidding requirement show the following:  
a. Both systems (class 'A' pull station and addressable systems) shall be bid, so that SFB can see that they will be funding the less costly system only.